

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An order assembly production system comprising:

first preparation means for preparing forecast data indicating a quantity and a time by which a component vendor is to provide vendor managed inventories based on a production plan;

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first presentation means for presenting said forecast data generated by said first preparation means to said component vendor a predetermined period before a presentation of a stock instruction;

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second preparation means for modifying said forecast data in consideration of a fluctuation factor, and preparing said stock instruction;

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second presentation means for presenting said stock instruction generated by said second preparation means to said component vendor a predetermined period before a presentation of a discharge instruction;

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means for storing said vendor managed inventories based on said stock instruction presented by said second presentation means; and

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third presentation means for presenting said discharge instruction to said component vendor to discharge said vendor managed inventories stored by said storing means in accordance with an order.

2. The system according to claim 1, wherein said vendor managed inventories are general-purpose

intermediate products which can be used in common to a plurality of products.

3. An order assembly production method comprising:

5 preparing forecast data indicating a quantity and a time by which a component vendor is to provide vendor managed inventories based on a production plan;

10 presenting said forecast data to said component vendor a predetermined period before a presentation of a stock instruction;

modifying said forecast data in consideration of a fluctuation factor, and preparing said stock instruction;

15 presenting said stock instruction to said component vendor a predetermined period before a presentation of a discharge instruction;

storing said vendor managed inventories based on said stock instruction; and

20 presenting said discharge instruction to said component vendor to discharge said vendor managed inventories in accordance with an order.

25 4. The method according to claim 3, wherein said vendor managed inventories are general-purpose intermediate products which can be used in common to a plurality of products.

5. An order assembly production system comprising:

means for calculating demand forecast data based on sales prospect data;

means for calculating material required amount plan data based on a received order and said demand forecast data;

means for issuing an order to a component vendor based on said material required amount plan data, and warehousing components in a component warehouse;

manufacturing instruction means for processing said components in said component warehouse based on said material required amount plan data, and manufacturing intermediate products;

means for storing said intermediate products manufactured by said manufacturing instruction means; and

means for processing said intermediate products in said storing means based on said received order, and starting manufacturing of a final product.

6. The system according to claim 5, further comprising means for monitoring a stock amount of said component warehouse, and issuing an order to said component vendor to obtain a defined stock amount when said stock amount is less than a predetermined amount.

7. The system according to claim 5, wherein said storing means stores said intermediate products as a vendor managed inventory without shifting ownership, and said component vendor is paid for an amount of the

intermediate products discharged from said storing means.

8. An order assembly production method comprising steps of:

- 5       depositing at least one of intermediate products processed from a component of a component vender and intermediate products of the component vender in a warehouse of a manufacturer while ownership remains in said component vender;
- 10      discharging said deposited intermediate products from said warehouse in response to a received order;
- 15      performing final assembly by said manufacturer using said discharged intermediate products; and
- 15      paying said component vender for said discharged intermediate products.

9. The method according to claim 8, wherein said intermediate products are market general-purpose products which can be used in common to products of another company.

- 20     10. The method according to claim 8, further comprising a step of notifying said component vender of stock replenishment data indicating a quantity and a time for replenishing said deposited intermediate products beforehand.

- 25     11. An order assembly production method comprising steps of:

forecasting a manufacturing plan for at least one

of a component delivery company and intermediate product delivery company;

indicating a delivery quantity of at least one of components and intermediate products to at least one of 5 said component delivery company and intermediate product delivery company based on said manufacturing plan, a component constitution of a product, and a stock situation;

10 depositing at least one of said indicated components and intermediate products in a warehouse;

releasing at least one of said deposited components and intermediate products out of said warehouse in response to a received order; and

15 assembling final products using at least one of said released components and intermediate products.

12. The method according to claim 11, further comprising steps of:

monitoring a warehoused quantity and a quantity discharged from said warehouse;

20 detecting said quantity of at least one of said components and intermediate products used for assembling said final products based on said monitored quantities; and

25 paying at least one of said component delivery company and intermediate product delivery company based on said detected quantity.

13. An order assembly production method comprising

steps of:

providing forecast data from a manufacturer to a vendor at a first time period before provision of a stock instruction from said manufacturer to said vendor, said forecast data including a first prospect amount of at least one of a component and an intermediate product to be incorporated into a final product, said first prospect amount to be provided as vendor managed inventories by said vendor;

10 providing from said manufacturer to said vendor, at a second time period before manufacturing said final product and after said first time period, a stock instruction including a second prospect amount of said at least one component and intermediate product, said 15 second prospect amount to be made presently accessible to said manufacturer by said vendor; and

20 retrieving by said manufacturer from said accessible amount an amount required by said manufacturer to manufacture a number of ordered final products.

14. An order assembly production method comprising steps of:

25 instructing a vendor to make accessible to a manufacturer a production plan-based number of components;

retrieving by said manufacturer from said production plan-based number of components a

manufacturing schedule-based number of components;

processing said manufacturing schedule-based number of components to manufacture intermediate products in accordance with said manufacturing

5 schedule; and

assembling said intermediate products to manufacture a final product in accordance with a received order.

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